

Economic Opportunity Action Group

December 18, 2008

Present: Charlie Williams, Rachel Freeze, Kelvin Meeks, Ted Helm, Chris Sanders, Marvin Cox, James Benesch, Lisa Stetar, Monroe Simmons, Dinah Gregory.

The Economic Opportunity Action Group met to discuss the process of gathering information for the End Product, which involves answering a series of questions to “develop 4-5 reasonably affordable and doable actions that, if taken, will lead to a significant reduction of poverty in Nashville.”

The group reviewed the draft grid and refined the actions to ensure they could meet the do-ability criteria which had been established by the Poverty Symposium. It discussed various ways the actions could be done.

Committee appointments were made, and it was requested that the Chairs of subcommittees notify the Action Group Chairman and other committee members when and where meetings will be held so that others who are interested can attend. Chairman Williams invited the Subcommittee Chairs to call on him for assistance if needed. Action group members who were not present at the meeting will be contacted to identify on which subcommittee they would like to serve. The subcommittee working on Action 4 will further refine the language of Action 4.

1. “Identify existing financial literacy resources and connect them to people who need them.”
 - Rachel Freeze, Chair
 - Marvin Cox, Co-Chair
 - Monroe Simmons
2. “Join and recruit others to support the expansion of the Coalition for Responsible Lending.”
 - Tiffany Israel, Chair
 - Kelvin Meeks
 - Rachel Freeze
3. “Convene local banking leaders to develop strategies to increase access to mainstream financial institutions.”
 - Jessica Leveen, Chair
 - Ted Helm
4. Business-community dialog action will be refined by the subcommittee, currently “Engage employers in dialog to identify relevant existing employment opportunities and to address barriers to employment.”
 - James Benesch, Chair
 - Lisa Stetar
 - Chris Sanders

Committees were requested to answer the questions in the December section of the End Document and submit the information to the Action Group Chairman by January 15. The next Action Group meeting was scheduled for 2-4 pm on Thursday, January 29, 2009.

December Section from End Product

Due from Committees by January 15, 2009

Report and Discuss at Action Group Meeting on January 29, 2009

Who will be the players in carrying out the action?

- Who will lead it?
- What organizations will be involved?

How will you link this action to related, ongoing initiatives?

- What are the related initiatives in Nashville?
- How will you connect this action to those initiatives?

How is this action related to actions of other Action Groups in the Poverty Reduction Initiative?

- What are the other actions that are related?
- How will you connect this action to the related others?